

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.(Currently amended) A method for transferring electronic information, comprising:
receiving a command to transmit a portion of a file of electronic information; and
in response to the received command to transmit the portion of the file of electronic information, automatically copying the portion of the file of electronic information to create a copied file of electronic information, transmitting the copied file to an entity, and rendering the portion of the file of electronic information unusable.

2.(Original) A method according to Claim 1, comprising:
determining whether the portion of the file of electronic information should be automatically copied and rendered unusable.

3. (Original) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the determining step is based on an electronic tag associated with the portion of the file of electronic information.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising:
determining that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable; and
transmitting a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the file is received from an entity, and
wherein the certificate is transmitted to the entity.

6. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the certificate is transmitted to an owner of a copyright in the file of electronic information.

7. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the rendering step comprises erasing the portion of the file of electronic information.

8. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic information comprises at least one of an image, text, multimedia, a movie, audio, music, software, news, weather, sports news, and data.

9. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of automatically copying comprises at least one of creating an electronic mail message, copying to electronic storage, copying to magnetic storage, and copying to optical storage.

10. (Currently amended) A method for providing a file of electronic information, comprising:
providing a file of electronic information;
receiving a copy of a portion of the file of electronic information; and
receiving a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information that has been copied has been rendered unusable.

11. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the file is provided to a consumer in fulfillment of a subscription.

12. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is erased in order to render the file unusable.

13. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, further comprising providing the certificate to an owner of a copyright in the portion of the file of electronic information.

14. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the file of information comprises a tag indicating that the portion of the file should be rendered unusable if the portion of the file is copied.

15. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the electronic information comprises at least one of an image, text, multimedia, a movie, audio, music, software, news, weather, sports news, and data.

16. (Currently amended) A medium storing processor-executable ~~instructions~~~~process steps~~ to transfer electronic information, the ~~process steps~~ medium comprising:

~~a step~~ instructions to receive a command to transmit a portion of a file of electronic information; and

in response to the received command to transmit the portion of the file of electronic information, ~~steps~~ instructions to automatically copy the portion of the file of electronic information to create a copied file of electronic information, instructions to transmit the copied file to an entity, and instructions to render the portion of the file of electronic information unusable.

17. (Currently amended) A medium according to Claim 16, the ~~medium~~~~process steps~~ comprising: ~~a step~~ instructions to determine whether the portion of the file of electronic information should be automatically copied and rendered unusable.

18. (Currently amended) A medium according to Claim 17, wherein the determining ~~step~~ is based on an electronic tag associated with the portion of the file of electronic information.

19. (Currently amended) A medium according to Claim 16, the medium ~~process steps~~ further comprising:

~~a step~~ instructions to determine that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable; and

~~a step-instructions~~ to transmit a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable.

20. (Original) A medium according to Claim 19, wherein the file is received from an entity, and wherein the certificate is transmitted to the entity.

21. (Original) A medium according to Claim 19, wherein the certificate is transmitted to an owner of a copyright in the portion of the file of electronic information.

22. (Currently amended) A medium storing ~~proeessor~~processor-executable ~~instructionsprocess steps~~ to provide a file of electronic information, the ~~mediumprocess steps~~ comprising:

~~a step-instructions~~ to provide a file of electronic information;
~~a step-instructions~~ to receive a copy of a portion of the file of electronic information; and
~~a step-instructions~~ to receive a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information that has been copied has been rendered unusable.

23. (Original) A medium according to Claim 22, wherein the file of information comprises a tag indicating that the portion of the file should be rendered unusable if the portion of the file is copied.

24. (Currently amended) An apparatus for transferring electronic information, comprising:
a processor; and
a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:

receive a command to transmit a portion of a file of electronic information; and
in response to the received command to transmit the portion of the file of electronic information, automatically copy ~~a the~~ portion of the file of electronic information to create a copied file of electronic information, transmit the copied file to an entity, and render the portion of the file of electronic information unusable.

25. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 24, the storage device further storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:

determine whether the portion of the file of electronic information should be automatically copied and rendered unusable.

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein the determining ~~step~~ is based on an electronic tag associated with the portion of the file of electronic information.

27. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 24, the storage device further storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:

determine that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable; and

transmit a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable.

28. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the file is received from an entity, and

wherein the certificate is transmitted to the entity.

29. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the certificate is transmitted to an owner of a copyright in the portion of the file of electronic information.

30. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing a file of electronic information, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by said processor to:

provide a file of electronic information;

receive a copy of a portion of the file of electronic information; and

receive a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information that has been copied has been rendered unusable.

31. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 30, wherein the file of information comprises a tag indicating that the portion of the file should be rendered unusable if the portion of the file is copied.

32. (Currently amended) A system for transferring electronic information, comprising:

 a subscription device comprising:

 a first processor; and

 a first storage device in communication with the first processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by the first processor to:

 transmit a file of electronic information according to a subscription; and

 receive a certificate certifying that a portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable; and

 a consumer device comprising:

 a second processor; and

 a second storage device in communication with the second processor and storing instructions adapted to be executed by the second processor to:

 receive the file of electronic information;

 receive a command to transmit a portion of the file of electronic information;

 determine whether the portion of the file of electronic information should be automatically copied and rendered unusable;

 automatically copy the portion of the file of electronic information to create a copied file of electronic information in response to the determination;

 transmit the copied file to an entity;

 render the portion of the file of electronic information unusable; and

 transmit the certificate to the subscription device.

33. (Original) A system according to Claim 32, wherein the copied file is transmitted to the subscription device.

34. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

35. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

36. (Original) A medium according to Claim 16, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

37. (Original) A medium according to Claim 22, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

38. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

39. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 30, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

40. (Original) A system according to Claim 32, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.